



Missouri Department of Natural Resources Nonpoint Source Implementation (319) Grants Request for Proposals

FY2006-2007

The Missouri Department of Natural Resources (the department) is requesting proposals for the prevention, control and/or abatement of nonpoint source water pollution. The goal of Missouri's Nonpoint Source Grant Program is to protect or improve the quality of Missouri's impaired or priority waters from nonpoint source pollution (polluted runoff from unregulated or unpermitted sources).

Section 319 Background

Nonpoint source pollution is caused by rainfall or snowmelt moving over and through the ground, carrying natural and human-made pollutants into lakes, rivers, streams, wetlands, estuaries, other coastal waters and ground water. Atmospheric deposition and drainage modifications are also nonpoint sources of pollution. Since 1990, Congress has annually provided grant funds to States under Section 319 to help implement management programs to address nonpoint source pollution.

Missouri's Nonpoint Source Management Plan summarizes major requirements for use of 319 funds, and describes priorities and criteria for use of these funds. This plan may be viewed on the Internet at <http://www.dnr.mo.gov/env/wpp/nps/mgmtplan/index.html>.

This Request for Proposals (RFP) makes funding available from two federal grant years, 2006 and 2007. However, funding is limited. A competitive process will be used to prioritize projects for funding. The EPA must approve the funding for all projects. The department also reserves the right to withhold some grant funds to use for specifically targeted activities.

Eligible Entities

Funds are available to educational institutions, units of government, and non-profit organizations with 501(c)(3) status.

Funding Priorities

Emphasis is on projects that restore the quality of waters on the state's 303(d) list due to nonpoint sources. The 2002 303(d) list can be found on the Internet at: http://www.dnr.mo.gov/env/wpp/waterquality/2002_303d_list.pdf. Highest priority will be given to projects with completed or scheduled TMDLs that implement watershed plans containing the certain elements identified by EPA. Information regarding impairments and Total Maximum Daily Loads (TMDLs) for Missouri's 303(d)-listed waters can be found at <http://www.dnr.mo.gov/env/wpp/tmdl/index.html>. Information on watershed plans can be found at <http://www.dnr.mo.gov/env/wpp/nps/rfp/w-mgmt-pln-grant.htm>. Projects that will protect waters not on the 303(d) list of impaired waters are also encouraged.

Of particular interest are projects addressing priority waters such as Outstanding State or National Resource Waters, those that contain or influence habitat identified as critical for endangered species or watersheds identified in Missouri's 305(b) report that could be candidates for 303(d) listing. The 305(b) report and maps can be found at http://www.dnr.mo.gov/env/wpp/waterquality/305b/2004_305b.pdf.

Projects that are supported by additional funding from other sources are encouraged. Section 319 funds should complement but not duplicate other funding sources.

Eligible Activities

In general, nonpoint source projects may provide information, education, demonstration, project-specific monitoring, installation of best management practices, riparian enhancement, and water quality restoration or protection. Watershed-based projects are encouraged. Nonpoint source grants *may not* be used for research or for activities required under any National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permit.

Examples of 319 projects funded in past years can be found at <http://www.dnr.mo.gov/env/wpp/nps/index.html>. Examples of eligible activities are provided below, although other activities may also be eligible.

Groundwater Activities

- Protection of karst areas of watersheds;
- Delineated wellhead protection zones; and
- Information/Education on groundwater protection.

Urban Stormwater Runoff

- Technical assistance to state and local stormwater programs;
- Monitoring needed to design and evaluate the effectiveness of implementation strategies;
- BMPs for pollution prevention and runoff control (except for BMPs required by a draft or final NPDES permit or Phase II Storm Water Permit);
- Information and education programs;
- Technology transfer and training; and
- Development and implementation of regulations, policies, and local ordinances to address stormwater runoff. (These may apply to areas covered by NPDES permits, provided that the regulations, policies, and ordinances apply to non-permitted areas as well.)

Abandoned Mine Lands (AML)

- Remediation of water pollution from abandoned mines that have not yet been issued a draft or final permit;
- Remediation of water pollution from portions of abandoned mine sites that are not covered by a draft or final permit;
- Mapping and planning remediation at abandoned mine land sites;
- Monitoring needed to design and evaluate the effectiveness of implementation strategies;
- Technical assistance to state and local AML programs;
- Information and education programs;

- Technology transfer and training;
- Development and implementation of policies to address abandoned mine lands; and
- Financial assessment/feasibility studies of AML sites.

Animal Feeding Operations

Section 319 funds may be used to support the implementation of a wide range of animal waste storage, treatment, and disposal options for animal feeding operations (AFO) that are not subject to NPDES permits requirements.

Lake Protection and Restoration Activities

Lake protection and restoration activities are eligible for funding under Section 319(h). Only classified lakes in Missouri are eligible for funding. A list of Missouri's classified lakes can be found in the state Water Quality Standards, 10 CSR 20-7.031, Table G. This list is also on the Internet at <http://www.sos.mo.gov/adrules/csr/current/10csr/10c20-7a.pdf> (page 30).

Lake projects shall not include costs for harvesting aquatic vegetation, chemical treatment for the symptoms of eutrophication, operating and maintaining lake aeration devices, or other procedures, unless these procedures are the most energy efficient or cost effective lake restoration method.

The following will be considered a priority for lakes funding:

1. **Lake Water Quality Assessment (LWQA) Projects**
A comprehensive statewide assessment of lake water quality, to enhance overall lake management programs and to increase public awareness and commitment to protecting lakes.
2. **Phase 1 Diagnostic/Feasibility Studies**
A comprehensive study of lakes included on Missouri's Section 303(d) lists which will determine the causes, sources, and extent of pollution to the lake; evaluate possible solutions; and recommend the most feasible and cost-effective methods and measures for restoring and protecting lake resources.
3. **Phase 2 Restoration/Implementation Projects**
These projects implement lake protection and restoration measures recommended in Phase 1 studies.
4. **Phase 3 Post-Restoration Monitoring Studies**
Funding priorities will support the studies that assess the effectiveness of restoration techniques that have been applied through Phase 2 projects.
5. **Other Lakes Activity** that is focused on a specific lake or reservoir.

Funding Information

Projects may be up to four years in length. Grant awards typically range from \$5,000 to \$400,000. These awards require matching support at a 60 percent federal 319 dollars to 40 percent non-federal ratio. For every \$60 of 319 funds, the project must include \$40 in non-federal funds. Matching support may include project specific in-kind contributions such as volunteer time, equipment, or supplies.

EPA provides funding to States in two separate categories:

1. "Base" funds may be used for a wide range of projects consistent with the State's Nonpoint

Source Management Plan. The state may use this funding for activities that protect waters not on the 303(d) list, or waters that are on the list. Funds may be used for education, outreach, or demonstration projects.

2. States must use the “incremental” funds to develop and implement watershed-based restoration plans for nonpoint source impairments in 303(d)-listed or other priority waters. Reporting of impairment load reduction and watershed management plans are required when using incremental funds.

Application Criteria

Applications will be reviewed based on the following criteria, in addition to the priorities discussed elsewhere:

1. The project must be consistent with the Missouri Nonpoint Source Management Plan and must be eligible for funding under Section 319 of the Clean Water Act. The plan may be viewed on the Internet at <http://www.dnr.mo.gov/env/wpp/nps/mgmtplan/index.html>
2. The project must demonstrate a high likelihood of success based on quality of the proposal, previous successes, appropriateness of goals, support of partners, size extent, appropriate and adoptable practices, adequate funding, competent management, etc. If possible, a project coordinator should be designated.
3. Preference may be given to projects that address restoration of 303(d)-listed waters by implementing control measures of the specific contaminant(s) for which the water is listed.
4. Projects should treat a complete watershed or sub-watershed of manageable size and address all significant nonpoint pollutant sources. Critical areas should be identified and be the focus of BMPs and monitoring.
5. A funding match of at least 40 percent nonfederal/60 percent 319 support is required. Soil and Water Conservation Districts need not show nonfederal match on agricultural projects.
6. All projects must have a technology transfer (information sharing) component. This may include tours, field days, booklets, brochures, etc.
7. Projects must have clearly stated, measurable objectives that are appropriate for the issue being addressed.
8. The project must include a method of measuring success. The evaluation method must be appropriate for the type of project and must relate to the project objectives. Evaluation measures should go beyond merely stating that an activity happened, but rather show the impact of the project. For example, restoration projects should include a measurement of the amount of pollution reduced by the practices. The EPA has a preferred model called STEPL, which can be downloaded at <http://it.tetrattech-ffx.com/stepl/>. Other models approved for load reduction estimates may be accepted upon review.
9. Cost-effectiveness of the project will be a significant factor. Projects that include a high percentage of funds for administrative, overhead or indirect costs will be considered a lower priority. Indirect rates cannot exceed 13 percent.
10. Proposals that address the under-representation of minorities and their concerns for water quality issues are encouraged.

Post Award Performance Reports

Applicants should be aware that performance reporting would be required if funding is awarded. These reports should include at a minimum:

- Quarterly and Annual progress reports, including Performance Milestone summary.
- Slippage Reports. Provide reasons for delays in meeting scheduled milestones/commitments and discuss what actions (State, Federal or other) will be taken to resolve any current or anticipated problems.
- Additional pertinent information including, when appropriate, analysis and explanation of cost overruns, unanticipated events/consequences, etc.
- Load reductions, which can be reported quarterly using the EPA STEPL model or other approved method. STEPL can be downloaded or ordered from the EPA Web site.
- A Quality Assurance Project Plan (QAPP) for all environmental monitoring projects.

To request a grant application contact Theresa Libbert at (573) 526-1599 or an electronic form at theresa.libbert@dnr.mo.gov.

Submit an electronic copy of the optional pre-proposal to theresa.libbert@dnr.mo.gov.

Mail 20 copies of the application to the following address and submit an electronic copy to theresa.libbert@dnr.mo.gov.

Missouri Department of Natural Resources
Water Protection Program
Watershed Protection Section
Attn.: Greg Anderson
P.O. Box 176
Jefferson City, MO 65102

Or, Street Address:
1101 Riverside Drive
Jefferson City, MO 65101

For more information about the Nonpoint Source Program or 319 grants, contact Greg Anderson at (573) 751-7144 or by e-mail at greg.anderson@dnr.mo.gov.

Grant training will be held April 12, 2006, in Jefferson City, Missouri. To register, call (573) 526-1599.

Schedule for FY2006-2007 Grant Proposals

March 10, 2006 – Optional Pre-proposals due

One-page, conceptual pre-proposals may be submitted to DNR. Pre-proposals are not required. Submittals will be reviewed and comments provided to the applicant for use in preparation of the final application. Submit an electronic copy to theresa.libbert@dnr.mo.gov.

April 12, 2006 – 319 Grant Training

A one-day training session will be held in Jefferson City, Missouri, to help applicants with their grant applications. For more information or to register, call Theresa Libbert at (573) 526-1599.

*****June 19, 2006*** -- Application Deadline**

Completed applications must be postmarked by June 19, 2006. Mail 20 copies of the application to Missouri Department of Natural Resources, Water Protection Program, Attn: Greg Anderson, P. O. Box 176, Jefferson City, MO 65102. Street address is 1101 Riverside Drive, Jefferson City, MO 65101. Submit an electronic copy to theresa.libbert@dnr.mo.gov.

July 26-27, 2006 (tentative) – Review panel meeting

Applicants will have the opportunity to meet with the review panel and respond to panel questions.

Fall 2006 – Clean Water Commission meeting

Prioritization list and recommendations submitted to the Clean Water Commission for approval.

Fall/Winter 2006 – Proposals to EPA

Proposals approved by DNR and the Clean Water Commission are submitted to EPA Region 7 as part of DNR's grant application. Prior to and after submittal, department staff may work with project sponsors to revise the workplan and/or budget. Following EPA approval, staff will work with project sponsors to finalize the project workplan and budget.

Spring 2007 – Funding expected to be available

Funding is not assured until the actual subgrant award document has been developed and signed by both the department and the subgrantee.